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UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
REGION 10
1200 Sixth Avenue
Seattle, Washington 98101

AUG - 6 1997

Reply To
Attn Of: ECO-088

Christopher Servheen, Project Leader
US Fish and Wildlife Service
PO Box 5127
Missoula, Montana 59806

Re: Grizzly Bear Recovery in the Bitterroot Ecosystem
Draft Environmental Impact Statement

Dear Dr. Servheen:

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has received the Grizzly Bear Recovery in the Bitterroot Ecosystem Draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for review in accordance with our responsibilities under the National Environmental Policy Act and under Section 309 of the Clean Air Act.

EPA Region 10 has used a screening tool to conduct a limited review of the draft EIS describing 4 alternatives that represent different approaches to grizzly bear recovery and management in the Bitterroot Ecosystem of Central Idaho and Western Montana. Based upon the screen, we do not foresee having any environmental objections to the proposed project. Therefore, we will not be conducting a detailed review of the draft EIS.

If you have any questions, please contact me in Seattle at 206/553-8574.

Sincerely,

Richard B. Parkin

Richard B. Parkin, Manager
Geographic Implementation Unit

Summary Paragraph Form

ERP Number D-SFW-L64045-OO

RATING

COMMENTLTR
8/6/97

Name of EPA Official Responsible For Review Of Project (Principal Reviewer)

MARESH

Summary

EPA Region 10 used a screening tool to conduct a limited review of the draft EIS describing 4 alternatives that represent different approaches to grizzly bear recovery and management in the Bitterroot Ecosystem of Central Idaho and Western Montana. Based upon the screen, EPA does not foresee having any environmental objections to the proposed project. Therefore, EPA will not be conducting a detailed review of the draft EIS.

Based on our abbreviated review EPA does not foresee having an environmental objections to the proposed project

Approved For Publication

(Initials of OFA Approving Official)

Note: Transmit 2 copies to MIU